Negotiation with GNLF Delegation on Gorkhaland Issue

331. SHRI CHITTA BASU:
SHRI SATYA PRAKASH MALAVIYA:
PROF. C. LAKSHMANNA:
SHRI P. N. SUKUL:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Central Government held discussions with a delegation of the GNLF in October last regarding Gorkhaland issue; and

(b) if so, the results thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) A GNLF delegation led by Shri Subash Ghising had met the Home Minister on 22nd October, 1987 and held discussions with him. It was impressed upon the GNLF leadership that the matter needs to be resolved in consultation with the State Government of West Bengal. The discussions are to continue.

Migration of Families from Punjab

332. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of families that have moved into the Union Territory of Delhi in the wake of extremist activity in Punjab;

(b) whether any families have moved back into Punjab after the imposition of the President's Rule there;

(c) whether Government are offering any incentives to these migrant families so as to motivate them to go back to Punjab and resume their normal activity there; and

(d) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI CHINTAMANI PANIGRAHI): (a) and (b) As on 31st October, 1987, about 4540 families had come to Delhi from Punjab, out of which 273 families have gone back.

(c) and (d) Following incentives are being offered by the Government of Punjab to motivate the families to go back to Punjab:—

(i) Transport allowance upto Rs. 2500/- per family;

(ii) Option to settle at a place of their choice in Punjab;

(iii) Provision of L.I.G. flats; and

(iv) Bank loan upto Rs. 25,000/- without any bank guarantee, 20 per cent of which would be treated as subsidy.

Excise Duty on Fireworks Manufacturers

333. SHRI R. SAMBASIVA RAO: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the imposition of excise duty on the fire works manufacturers in the South has hit them adversely;

(b) whether it is also a fact that if this levy is not withdrawn thousands of petty wage-earners are likely to be thrown out of employment; and

(c) if so, what steps Government are taking to protect the interests of small wage-earners?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EXPENDITURE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI B. K. GADHVI): (a) to (c) The excise duty exemption scheme in respect of certain excisable goods manufactured without the aid of power was amended on 17th September, 1987 so as to exclude fireworks from the purview of the scheme. However, fireworks would continue to get the benefit of the general scheme of exemption for small scale units. The